

POLITICAL.

FOR THE ENQUIRER.

TECH OF HON. WM. SMITH, AT THE DINNER IN MADISON.

(Correspondence)

MADISON COLETT HOUSE, VA., July 29th, 1843.

Worthy William Smith:

Dear Sir, We, the Secretaries at the Dinner, given by you at the Rapid Ann Meeting House, on the 25th inst., have been instructed to request you to furnish us for publication a copy of the speech delivered by you on that occasion.

We feel assured, that a compliance with the above request, at your earliest convenience, will be a source of the highest gratification to those who were assembled on that occasion, as it will be to us.

With sentiments of the highest esteem and regard,
remain, your most obedt servants,
THOS. J. HUMPHREYS,
A. R. BLAKEY.
Secretaries.

WARRENTON, Sept. 30, 1843.

Gentlemen: As requested—after great delay, arising from many causes—I forward the substance of remarks at the Madison Dinner, on the 25th July. Written from memory, it must not excite sur-

use if I now omit something that was said, and write something that was not uttered. But I hope the animation and excitement of the scene will be a sufficient apology for those who were present.

Quite unwell for a portion of the time, and pressed in business, without the intermission of a day, since I received your letter, it would have been very gratifying to have been spared the publication of my crude and imperfect remarks, but I did not feel myself at liberty to refuse the gratifying wishes of my friends.

With great regard,

I am, gentlemen,
Yours, most truly,
WM. SMITH.
Messrs. Thos J. Humphreys, and A. R. Blakey,
Madison Court House, Va.

The sixth regular toast was announced, as follows:
The Hon. Wm. Smith: The consistent, uncompromising Republican, who commenced and continued, and has so far terminated his political career as the

nant of Madison, discharging throughout, the trusts ascribed to him, to our entire satisfaction, and who, in late Presidential contest, seeing the crisis, gallantly saving our Democracy, and by his indomitable energy and spirit, rescued the Old Dominion from the grasp of Federalism—such is the man we delight to honor, and such is the man we now proclaim the candidate of Madison for a seat in the Senate of the Union.”

Mr. Smith then rose and addressed the company as follows :

from my heart, Mr. President and friends and fellow-citizens, I thank you for the flattering compliment with which you have honored me. It not only glorifies the past, the whole, the entire past, of my official conduct, as your representative, but yielding to the force of those fine affections, which have convulsed this day, this large and animated assembly; and looking at my fitness for public station, through this and brilliant medium alone, it proclaims me the disciple of Madison, for a seat in the Senate of the nation. As a compliment, it is complete; as a reward

And, I see too, among the sons, many, very many, the daughters of Madison. The old and the young, the fair and the beautiful are here. Sweet smiles and bright eyes, softened, however, by the scene, into all dewy loveliness of Summer's eve, are here, to do honor, and welcome me to this festive board. Providence, ladies, has been pleased to give me a strongly susceptible; and I early married. Fruitless blessed my marriage, and eleven prattlers

called me father—seven are still left to gladden the hearts of their parents with their filial affection, and with hopes of their future usefulness and th. In all this time, my heart has never felt cold again. In sharing my joys, she has increased them. I live in the trials and storms which have beset me. I truly say of her, in the beautiful language of Sir Walter Scott,

A 9999-tering Angel, thou art!

Her presence here, therefore, ladies, affects me most deeply, and I thank you, with unfeigned sincerity—

born in the county of King George—partly educated in Connecticut—qualified for admission to the Bar, in the offices of Judge Green, Thomas L. Moore, Esq., and General T. Winder, of Baltimore, I settled in the county of Culpeper in August, 1818, not then nearly one year of age. Ardent and I trust I say, generous in my nature, I at once took an active part in the politics of my adopted county. Early

vinced of the great capacity and natural dignity of
I, adopted as the foundation of my political creed,
political equality, qualified, however, by certain so-
considerations, and so modified as to secure the
reatest good to the greatest number of the settled
ulation of the community.

Although, fellow citizens, I early took a part in the
itics of the country, I am proud to say, it was with-
the slightest reference to my own political advance-
ment. For eighteen years, I had freely given my
able abilities and spared from my little means, to

the noble cause of Democracy, without thought of
ward. Content to work in the Republican ranks, I
perfully left to others the honors and emoluments
office. And, when I did become a candidate for the
time, it is known, well known to some of you, that
was not only against my wish, but in spite of my
most remonstrance. But the convention which no-
nated me for the Senate of Virginia, from this dis-
tinction, made it a point of duty, for me to accept their
nomination; and, although with great reluctance, I did
so. I thus became a public man; and it may be said,
that I was degraded.

as continued up to the 4th March last. Yes, from the day of Madison, I am happy to remember, that my public career commenced, continued, and has, so far, terminated, as your Representative - deeply gratified to hear you say unto me, without qualification or exception, after a *seven years'* trial too - "Well done, good and faithful servant!" And, as if your manly and generous hearts had not yet done enough to reward unpretending services, and soften the anguish of separation, you, here, surrounded by these joyous ones, on your own green sod, and your murmuring brook and meadow-side, said to your countrymen,

none to make you afraid if here, you proclaim
genu and the world, that I, poor and powerless, am
candidate, the candidate of Madison, for a seat
the Senate of the Union. Strongly as you know
ever been attached to Madison, the incidents of
day will powerfully strengthen my regard and im-
this scene, as a green and sunny spot upon my
memory, never to be forgotten, but with the last pul-
the Providence of God shows to my mortal

men have been pleased also, fellow-citizens, to commend me for the part I took in the great contest of 1860. In that contest, I had no official character; I acted under that sense of duty alone, which pertains to me as a citizen and a man. The Wings had showed their ability to carry the State, and they relied, for the accomplishment of their purpose, upon the most extraordinary combination of men and measures, that had been ever known in our party annals. In their avowed means was, for their orators to excite, to excite and carry every thing by storm.

policy they soon undertook, and pursued it with vigorous vigor for many weeks, without the slightest opposition; unless, indeed, a small hush I had with the *Rives* at Culpener Court House, may be regarded as an exception. Naturally arrogant and presumptuous, as we suppose, and becoming more so from our silence, the Whigs of Rockingham issued a challenge to the Democrats, to meet at the May Court of that county, for the purpose of discussing the issues involved in the Presidential contest—and the Democrats of that glorious county accepted the challenge.

They entered me with a special messenger, and pressed me to my residence with flattering earnestness; and I determined to go, (although to do so, involved a serious sacrifice of my professional interests,) and do battle with the Philistines, in the name of Truth and Democracy. The contest took place. Of the result, it does not become me to speak. Suffice it to say, however, that from that moment, it seemed as if the sacred arm of Whig inviolability was broken. Every where a gallant one of Democracy fearlessly met and vanquished

fully encountered the foe men. And Virginia was not particular—but of every Republican, from the poor black best her. When, my countrymen, I understand the fight of R. ekingham, I had not a thought that I had thereby enlisted for the whole campaign; private circumstances forbade it. But our friends could not allow me to retire. It was not, in fact, for any man who loved his country and cherished his institutions, in a true, Republican sense, to countenance the contest called upon him to make. And

Accordingly, summer and fall found me still toiling in